

Truckers Update

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Date: Fri, 18 Feb 2022 17:07:13 +0000
Attachments: image001.png (29.82 kB); Geomatics_-_00009-22_Convoy_2022-02-18_1100.pdf (4.39 MB)

New information in bold as of 12:00 EST, 18 Feb. Please ensure proper distribution of the KPs to officials with need-to-know.

BLUF

- The enhanced Integrated Command Centre (ICC) under a Unified Command – made up of OPS, OPP, RCMP, and SQ, has established a secured area in Ottawa's downtown. Members of the public will be required to show proof of exemption for travel inside the Secured Area.
- All incoming traffic are subject to police check points (approx. 100).
- Emergency Cabinet debate for today cancelled due to ongoing police operation. MPs and Senators have been told to stay away from Parliament Hill today.
- No one currently on Parliament Hill and less than 100 people on surrounding streets.
- Police continue to make arrests in Ottawa's downtown core. [Link](#)
- As of 10:31 EST, 18 Feb, OPS is reporting 10 arrests and 10 vehicles towed. [Link](#)
- At 11:30 EST, 18 Feb, hundreds of police officers have gathered and formed a line near Rideau and Sussex in the downtown core of Ottawa. The police are slowly advancing on a large group of demonstrators in the area.
- OPS has officially laid charges against two organizers of the so-called "Freedom Convoy". [Link](#)
- City of Gatineau has secured an injunction against the Farfadaa group in a parking lot next to the Chaudière Bridge. The group has relocated.
- FINTRAC is working closely with businesses and its Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing Regime partners to implement the [Emergency Economic Measures Order](#). This includes facilitating the registration with FINTRAC of crowdfunding platforms and payment service providers if they are in possession or control of property that is owned,

IMPACTED AREAS: (Details on Demonstrations in affected cities/regions)

Ottawa, ON:

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- On 17 Feb, messaging from TBS OCHRO and PCO was sent to all Chief Security Officers and federal operations centres. The updated communication reinforced current messaging.
- The current status of the interprovincial bridges is as follows:
 - Macdonald-Cartier Bridge is open
 - Alexandra Bridge is closed but southbound lanes are open from 06:00-10:00 on weekdays
 - Portage Bridge southbound is closed (except for essential workers) while northbound is open but all corridors leading to it are closed
 - Chaudière Bridge is open
 - Champlain Bridge is open
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- NOTAM is in effect for airspace restrictions over Parliament Hill until 28 Feb.

Pacific Highway, BC:

- On 17 Feb, a convoy was heading towards the Lower Mainland Vancouver and the Pacific Highway border crossing. The convoy is coming from the North and Interior BC. Surrey Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) are monitoring the situation and have stated that

they have a contingency plan should demonstrators show up at the Pacific Highway border crossing.

SK:

- SK RCMP says it is preparing for protests this weekend at two border crossings in the province. Demonstrations are expected at the North Portal and Northgate port of entries. The Village of North Portal said it has heard 60 to 80 semi-trucks and up to 120 passenger vehicles are expected to be involved at the protest starting on Friday. Landowners have granted permission to the event organizers to use private land located by Highway 39 for camping and gathering. [Global News](#)

Lacolle, QC:

- The Sûreté du Québec (SQ) has increased patrols near the [Canada-U.S. border crossing](#) in the Lacolle, QC, area on Highway 15 after being notified of a possible convoy protest blockade. SQ has set up a checkpoint near the border crossing to ensure there is a steady flow of traffic. So far, no protesters have been detected. [Link](#)

Haute-Ville de Québec:

- A NOTAM was issued for Haute-Ville de Québec restricting airspace near the Jean Lesage International Airport, as a preventative measure for possible demonstrations

WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

IMVE:

- As per ITAC:
 - Individuals seeking to participate in a legitimate protest are distinct from actors espousing violent extremism.
 - The most likely IMVE-related scenario involves an individual or small group using readily available weapons and resources such as knives, firearms, homemade explosives and vehicles in public areas against soft targets, including opposition groups or members of the general public.
 - The increase in violent online rhetoric targeting uniformed personnel is likely not indicative of increased intent by IMVE actors to conduct planned, directed attacks against members of law enforcement. Uniformed personnel are more likely to be targeted because of their accessibility in the course of their duties. The terrorism threat to uniformed personnel remains MEDIUM.
 - IMVE adherents may feel empowered by the level of disorder resulting from the protests. This could lead to individuals vulnerable to extremist messaging to commit isolated acts of violence.

International:

- NSTR

Maritime/CCG:

- NSTR

Foreign Interference:

- RRM Canada saw no significant change in the last 24 hours, and therefore has no additional input.
- Prominent discussions online about the “Truckers Convoy” have continued to shift, now overlapping with those related to the *Emergencies Act*. A significant portion of engagement and activity continues to come from US online communities, driven by key US influencers, alternative media and political actors. Given the transnational nature of this discussion, it is difficult to determine exact metrics, but analysis indicates a clear interest among various US communities, including those sympathising with protesters, conspiracy-minded groups, and ideologically motivated networks.
- RRM Canada has also noted a trending narrative around a “bank run” in Canada. The narrative distorts the impact of new financial measures to curb foreign funding, casting the measures as a threat to Canadians’ own personal bank accounts (i.e., banks will broadly freeze accounts without legitimate cause). The narrative appears to be aimed at amplifying Canadians’ concerns around these new powers, as well as spurring Canadians to withdraw funds from their bank accounts in an effort to destabilize Canadian institutions. The discussion on Twitter is currently operating at low levels compared with overall activity. There are no indications of significant foreign state-sponsored interference in this discussion, with much of the activity resembling organic engagement, profit-seeking groups, and key US influencers amplifying the narrative.

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continue to engage in the “Truckers Convoy” discussion. These discussions focus on a number of themes including: claims of Canadian hypocrisy, questioning Canada’s commitment to the rule of law, and sympathising with protesters. This continues to operate at low levels compared with overall activity.

Financing:

- FINTRAC is working closely with businesses and its Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing Regime partners to implement the [*Emergency Economic Measures Order*](#). This includes facilitating the registration with FINTRAC of crowdfunding platforms and payment service providers if they are in possession or control of property that is owned, held, or controlled by, or on behalf of, an individual or entity that is engaged, directly or indirectly, in an activity which is prohibited under the [*Emergency Measures Regulations*](#).

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- No concerns at this time.

SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYSIS:

- **Members of the Ottawa blockade that has kept the capital at a standstill for nearly three full weeks are calling the federal government's use of the *Emergencies Act* a scare tactic.**
[Link](#)

OVERALL ASSESSMENT: (Derived from information available on open sources)

- **The majority of the events have been peaceful however, it is being reported in social media that some of the protesters in Ottawa have been wrestling with police officers during the police action of 18 Feb.**
- **Government employees who are required to access the Secured Area in Ottawa are experiencing delays caused by the checkpoints.**

Peter Hoy
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Irrelevant

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